Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-87-209 *29 October 1987*

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Forum for South Atlantic Denuclearized Zone
PY281058 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1354 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Oct (NA)—Presidential adviser Aldo Tessio and Uruguayan Broad Front President General Liber Seregni, retired, have agreed on the need to turn the South Atlantic into a demilitarized zone, free of the presence of world powers; and on the need to obtain cooperation agreements among South Atlantic countries to pursue independent social and economic development.

The two political leaders made this statement yesterday during the inauguration of the international conference on the South Atlantic as peace and cooperation zone, free of nuclear weapons.

The conference will be held through 28 October at the headquarters of the Cooperatives Fund Developing Institute [Instituto Mobilizador de Fondos Cooperativos] located at 1944 Rivadavia Avenue, Buenos Aires. Delegates of South Atlantic-bordering countries, the United States, and the Soviet Union among others, will participate.

Besides Seregni and Tessio, the list of delegates includes Romesh Chandra, President of the WPC; Eduardo Mercado Jarrin, former Peruvian minister during Velasco Alvarado's administration; Victor Licandro, a Uruguayan general; Kostas Kostantinidis, a Greek general; and Rev Wendell Foster from the United States, and (Boris Kovalev), a professor from the Soviet Union.

During the opening ceremony Tessio said that President Alfonsin, as head of the executive branch, "has started the wonderful adventure of [words indistinct] development program in the region [words indistinct] in favor of peace, at the initiative of the Group of Six, which includes Argentina, Mexico, Greece, Sweden, Tanzania, and India."

Tessio said that the arms race pursued by the United States caused "the fall of the dollar," and that the existence in that country of "the military-industrial complex could lead mankind to total destruction."

Seregni exhorted the southern cone countries to maintain "the political will of integration," liberating the South Atlantic from military presence, particularly that of the world powers.

Seregni added that "the political will for integration and demilitarization" should be able to help our countries to peacefully solve our border problems, "to fight drug trafficking without the intervention of foreign military forces in the region," and to work for "an independent economic and social development."

C.A. Ministers Announce 5 Nov Cease-Fire

PA290310 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0129 GMT 29 Oct 87

[Text] San Jose, 28 Oct (DPA)—The five Central American foreign ministers meeting in San Jose since yesterday agreed today on a cease-fire in Central America on 5 November.

In a lengthy communique, Foreign Ministers Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto of Costa Rica, Miguel D'Escoto of Nicaragua, Ricardo Acevedo of El Salvador, Carlos Lopez of Honduras, and Adolfo Cabrera of Guatemala noted that as of 5 November, 90 days after the 7 August meeting held in Guatemala City, the five agreements that follow must be implemented simultaneously in Central America:

A—cease-fire.

B—amnesty.

C—democratization.

D—the end of military aid from extraregional countries.

E—nonuse of national territory of a country to attack another.

The agreements were adopted by consensus of the five ministers after more than 4 hours of negotiations that prolonged the announcement until 1930 (Central American time).

By virtue of these agreements, each country commits itself to enforce the measures deemed necessary to guarantee the fulfillment of this statement by the five foreign ministers.

For its part, the Verification and Follow-Up Commission will work as of 5 November in each country to ensure the fulfillment of the agreements.

This commission will meet in New York on 5 December to evaluate their work.

The "Verification and Follow-Up Commission will be made up of the Contadora Group, the Support Group, a delegate of the OAS and a UN delegate. [no closing quotation marks as received]

The foreign ministers will also discuss a request to those foreign powers to cease military aid to the contra groups in Nicaragua and the guerrillas in El Salvador.

Although the foreign ministers' statement does not say so, it is understood that those extraregional powers are the United States and the USSR.

The topic of the Central American refugees was analyzed, and several countries will be asked to finance the programs of refugees.

The Central American foreign ministers were "quite satisfied" with the work carried out during the past 2 days in San Jose and stated that "the peace process in Central America is under way, and that the 5 November date is unpostponable."

EEC Commissioner Says Latin Debt 'Unbearable'

PY262309 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1714 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Oct (EFE)—Claude Cheysson, EEC commissioner for Latin America, said here today that current interest rates are making the servicing of Latin America's foreign debt, estimated at $400 billion, an "unbearable" burden.

Cheysson made this statement after meeting with Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, with whom he also discussed international trade.

The EEC commissioner met with the foreign ministers of the Group of 8 in the tourist resort of Punta del Este over the weekend. The Group of 8 is comprised of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. The commissioner and the foreign ministers analyzed the foreign debt, the recent stock market decline, world trade, and protectionism.

Cheysson assured that "now" there is an economic and political relationship "that cannot be denied" between the Group of 8 and the 12 members of the EEC.

Cheysson said that "we have the same fundamental values of respect for men and democracy, but also many common economic problems."

European countries "need" to grow again, and that "will not be possible" as long as interest rates remain at their current level.

The EEC commissioner said the high interest rates make the servicing of the foreign debt "unbearable" and mean that the world's wealth "is being diverted to the stock market instead of being used as investments."

Today, Claude Cheysson will meet with Economy and Finance Minister Ricardo Zerbino, the rest of the economic team, and the International Affairs Commission of the Uruguayan Congress.

Tomorrow, Cheysson will travel to Argentina, the second leg of his tour.

Cuba

Radio Link Established With USSR Cosmonauts

FL271620 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Text] Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Arnaldo Tamayo yesterday established the first Cuba-Cosmos radio link up. Radio Moscow and Radio Progreso established the first link up, thus allowing Cuban scientists and reporters to make contact with the Soviet space complex currently in orbit. In his first statement, Romanenko expressed his happiness in being able to talk to Cuba and said that he is in good health after 263 days in space.

Ramon Perez, president of the Cuban Inter-Cosmos Commission talked on the radio and greeted Romanenko on behalf of the Cuban scientists and wished him success on his mission.

The Cuba-Cosmos radio link up, done through the USSR Flight Center, was in honor of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Over 35,000 People Attend Exposition on CIA

FL270310 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 2230 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Over 35,000 people attended the exposition "Cuba Denounces the CIA," during the 5 days it was open to the public in Cienfuegos. The exhibit closed there last night. This is considered to be one of the most successful events of its kind in terms of attendance. The exposition was staged at the exhibition hall of the PCC Provincial Committee's Department of Revolutionary Orientation. The hall was divided into 14 areas where the photographies of the 27 agents, who infiltrated the sinister Yankee spy organization, were displayed.

One of the events which caused more interest was the open forum in which the Cuban agents answered the public's questions and signed autographs.

Veiga Calls for Productive Red Sunday

FL280323 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Roberto Veiga, member of the PPC Politburo, has asserted in Holguin that the objective of next Red Sunday is to make it truly productive by guaranteeing that the work performed in each 8-hour day is considerably useful. Veiga, who is also secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, asserted that it is a matter of being realistic in setting and fulfilling individual and collective commitments, of preserving the union's mobilizing reputation, and respecting the essence of voluntary work as a very important factor for development. The labor leader also said people feel good when they can see the fruits of their labor in any front and he recommended that they make their pledges on time so that next Red Sunday is characterized by high yields in all areas.

Gallardo Fernandez Ends Visit to Vietnam

FL241927 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1903 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Jorge Gallardo Fernandez, vice president of Cuba's State Committee for Finance, today ended an official visit in Vietnam in which he exchanged experiences and work ideas with his counterpart [name indistinct]. The preparation of a CEMA member countries meeting on prices scheduled for next December in our capital was among other subjects discussed.

OTHER COUNTRIES

Haiti

Military Preparing for Election Security

FL282124 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1400 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Excerpts] A press release from the Ministry of Information and Coordination advises that a guidebook for agents of public security has been published, following a seminar on strengthening security mechanisms for the coming elections.

This seminar was held at the Motor Vehicle Traffic Department on 19-23 October 1987 for the commanding officers of all military districts and sub-districts in Haiti. [passage omitted] The participants in the seminar can use the guidebook to train the soldiers under their commands.

In addition, officers of corps with headquarters in Port-au-Prince might be transferred to different districts between 9 and 30 November to strengthen the security network throughout Haiti. The press release is signed by Francois Gerard C. Noel, acting minister of information and coordination.

Presidential Candidate Desinor on Elections

FL280020 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Interview with presidential candidate Clovis Desinor on the "Profile of a Presidential Candidate" program by unidentified reporter; date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Desinor] I will invite you, perhaps tomorrow, to hear what I think you may call a program. You yourself will choose from what I will have to say tomorrow afternoon what might constitute a program because I [words indistinct] a long time ago that I don't have a program to present, like candidates with a

political party and a party program. I, as an independent candidate, most certainly have something to offer, for joint action by all. You will hear it tomorrow evening. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Mr Desinor, I see that your tone is truly conciliatory and open to dialogue, but there has been criticism that the tone of your last news conference was rather threatening. What can you tell us about this?

[Desinor] What was threatening, what was perceived as threatening in my last news conference? The first one, rather. Was that the one?

[Reporter] Yes, the first one. The one held in Canape Vert.

[Desinor] I think that perhaps we should pinpoint what has been established as constituting a threatening tone. I do not need to threaten and I will never threaten. Personally, in principle, I think that he who threatens is weak. And I do not threaten. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] The members of the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] say the Constitution was ratified and they cannot be blamed for decisions they will have to make. Mr Desinor, since you agreed to participate in the electoral campaign, are you ready to also accept the rules of the game set by the CEP at this time?

[Desinor] The rules of the game are normal. If I agreed to sign this document, this inquisition [rephrases], I agreed to accept this inquisitorial document, didn't I? Which means I am on the playing field and in the game.

[Reporter] I meant that we are now in the period in which candidacies for president, senator, deputy, etc. will be accepted or rejected. What will you do if your candidacy is rejected? How would you take that?

[Desinor] I have already answered that. I said I would go home and observe. The people themselves will do their duty, will do what they must.

Presidential Candidate May Form New Party

FL282122 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil in Creole 1200 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Former General Jean-Baptiste Hilaire held a news conference yesterday. Hilaire is a presidential candidate. [passage omitted]

He said he is an independent candidate but he might form a political party before the elections are held. He added that he does not have any ties to any other independent or macoute candidates, but that he might form an alliance with others. Hilaire noted that he is not merely after power but is interested in Haiti's future. [passage omitted]

CEP Takes Measures To Prevent Fraud

FL272147 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1400 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Excerpt] A Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] communique advises that certain political sectors interested in disturbing the elections last week staged a number of maneuvers to commit fraud.

Following a special meeting to prevent and thwart those dangerous maneuvers, the CEP has adopted the following measures:

The CEP asks the president and members of the voter registration offices to take down the numbers of documents used for identification of citizens coming to register, such as passports, birth certificates, drivers licenses, etc.

Next, it asks those officials to record the names of those citizens who serve as witnesses in the identification of voters without documents and to write CEP 87 on the back or on the last page of certain documents, initialing them. In addition, registered voters may serve as witness to identify only one person during the entire registration period and only at the office in which they themselves are registered.

Should there be fraud during voter registration, the president of the registration office must draw up a formal report and describe the fraud in detail and must call on the civilian or military authorities to take into custody anyone caught in flagrante delicto. The formal report must be sent to the justice of the peace so that the person can be brought before the appropriate tribunal by virtue of Articles 98, 100, 109, 110, 112, 113, and 114 of the electoral law.

Candidates and voters found guilty will come under the law in accordance with those articles. The candidacies of those found guilty of fraud will be annulled.

Finally, the communique says that the CEP will publish a list of people guilty of fraud in connection with elections; in other words, people who have violated the electoral law.

Domestic Journalists Not Included in Warning

FL272037 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1400 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Excerpt] We have here an AFP cable which says: The Ministry of Information and Coordination has informed AFP that the warning issued last Friday by the National Government Council and the Haitian Armed Forces in connection with statements made by certain foreign government organizations regarding Haiti in no way concerns the Haitian press. So it seems Haitian journalists are not affected by that warning. [passage omitted]

Daily Criticizes Elliott Abrams' Remarks

PA271645 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 20 Oct 87 p 4

[Article by Samuel Sosa Fuentes: "Mexico—United States: The Empire Strikes Back, Again"]

[Text] Once again, political relations between Mexico and the United States have been noticeably affected by recent remarks made by ultraconservative caveman Elliott Abrams, U.S. assistant secretary of state, who attacked the Mexican Government and its foreign policy in an act of frank intervention in Mexico's domestic political affairs. Abrams has done this out of an anti-Mexican and anticommunist feeling rather than out of a lack of political knowledge.

Indeed, during a speech to the National Conference on Foreign Policy at the State Department on 15 October, Abrams said that "Mexico's foreign policy has been too obliging to the Sandinists, complacent in view of the real nature of the Managua regime, and incompatible with its own interests and those of the United States. We think that the Mexican policy does not truly help prevent this type of instability. In addition," Abrams continued, "we have not seen that the Mexicans are willing to pressure the Sandinists into complying with the peace plan, and this is deplorable. It is deplorable because it means that Mexico has an attitude that is complacent in the face of the murder and arrest of the Sandinists' opponents and this violates the Esquipulas II Agreements." Why does Mexico have this policy? Abrams asked himself, "I do not know. What I do know is that Mexico's Central American policy shows that it has a view of the Sandinists that is completely wrong. Mexico's refusal or inability to admit that the Sandinists are Marxist-Leninists and that they are not only interested in the complete consolidation of their power in Nicaragua but are, in essence, the exporters of instability, is a deplorable error that the Mexicans are making."

Later on, in a flash of arrogance that was basically political intervention, Abrams said that things in Mexico and its foreign policy will radically change after Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the PRI precandidate, becomes president next year. Abrams stated: "The ruling party in Mexico has chosen Carlos Salinas de Gortari as its presidential candidate and one assumes that he will be elected president next year. He is an excellent economist; greatly responsible for what we view as the positive changes in the handling of the Mexican economy." In addition, Abrams explained, "he was trained in the United States. The truth is that he is an economist trained at Harvard who knows our country very well. This is another advantage because he lived in this country for a long time." Therefore, Salinas de Gortari "has not been involved" in the development of Mexico's foreign policy. Therefore, "he has no personal record" regarding foreign affairs.

As one can see, this is a clear and open intervention in our country's domestic affairs. However, it is part of the guidelines and trends of U.S. policy toward Mexico during the last 5 years of the Reagan administration: it tries to influence, pressure, and end Mexico's independent, sovereign, and autonomous foreign policy in regard to the Central American crisis and to meddle in Mexico's economic, political, social, and cultural life.

All one has to do is recall the recent political and economic destabilization campaign organized and directed against Mexico from the U.S. Congress all the way down to Charles J. Pilliod, the current Yankee ambassador to our country. Regarding this, figures like Jesse Helms, John Gavin, Simpson-Rodino, Alan Riding, the CIA, Sol Sanders, and Abrams himself stand out as the Reagan administration's spearheads against a nation that has always promoted and fought for the people's self-determination, the nonintervention of foreign economic, political, and military interests, and the peaceful solution to international conflicts. That has been, is, and will be the cornerstone of Mexico's foreign policy, which has earned our country, more than a Nobel Peace Prize, the recognition of the international community, which views Mexico as a nation that seeks international coexistence within the framework of a world crisis in which only powerful and imperialist interests, like those of the United States, have prevailed during the past 50 years.

Therefore, Abrams' statement shows that current Mexican-U.S. relations express—far beyond the official and diplomatic framework in which everything is expressed in terms of "goodwill," in "friendly relations," and in "just cooperation, between equals and based on mutual respect,"—a deep crisis in bilateral relations that in political practice have always developed in a framework of inequality, injustice, and intolerance.

One would only have to remind Mr Abrams or any other member of the Reagan administration of the statements that Salinas de Gortari, the PRI precandidate "trained at Harvard" and in the "American way of life" [preceding phrase in English], recently made regarding Mexico's foreign policy. Salinas de Gortari said: "Only the Mexicans, solely the Mexicans, will decide our destiny. There will not be, because history proved this under Benito Juarez' indomitable leadership, a single foreigner who can tell Mexico what path to follow. We will decide that."

This proves that, in the past 50 years, Mexico's foreign policy has been one of the most prestigious, positive, and the greatest achievement for our nation that seeks a better treatment and sovereign independence within the current crisis in which the international capitalist-imperialist division of labor [as published]. There is no reason for it to change, at least that is what we hope.

Costa Rica

Arias: No Need To Change Agreement Deadlines

PA271401 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] President Oscar Arias has expressed the hope that progress will be made daily in the peace talks in the region. He said he trusts each Central American country will make progress in complying with the Guatemala agreement, but he stressed that 7 November is the date when a process will begin, not end.

Arias said it is fundamental to think of what will happen from now on, to determine if there will be the will to comply with the agreement made in Guatemala. He regrets the work to achieve peace in the region has not progressed faster. However, he said we Latin Americans always leave everything for the last minute. He has sent messages to his colleagues asking them: Why leave for tomorrow what we can do today?

The president said that compared with what happened 2 months ago, there is a new climate in Central America and the dialogue remains open, though little progress has been made.

The president said the information he has is that the meetings between the Salvadoran guerrillas and government representatives have not been quite successful but he is happy to know the dialogue has not been broken off. The guerrillas and the Duarte administration will meet again, and he hopes the same thing will happen in Nicaragua, where there has been no success in that regard. Arias said, however, that he is not losing his optimism and that he hopes we will be able to comply and give Central Americans the peace they deserve so much.

Arias reiterated that he does not see any need to change any of the deadlines in the Guatemala agreement.

On Esquipulas, Compliance

PA271908 San Jose RUMBO in Spanish 27 Oct 87 pp 15, 16, 17

[Report on interview with President Oscar Arias by Carlos Cortes in San Jose; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Cortes] While Contadora, the Support Group, the Reagan administration, and other proposals failed, you were successful in getting a signed agreement. What were the factors that made a difference?

[Arias] "There are many factors, but one thing was Costa Rica's degree of conviction in persuading Central America that there is no other alternative." [passage omitted] "The peace proposal is very Costa Rican. Contrary to what some people wanted, it is a proposal for all Central America and in support of peace; it is not against Nicaragua or against Sandinism. I think to a great extent it represents what Costa Rica is."

[Cortes] The U.S. reaction to your Nobel Prize has been cordial but not very enthusiastic. Everyone is aware of the deep disagreements between you and Ronald Reagan. Some U.S. congressmen who disagree with the Arias plan think that from now on the United States will be very reluctant to give Costa Rica the traditional economic aid it has been granted. Do you agree with this view?

[Arias] "By receiving the Nobel Prize, it is even truer today that no one is going to punish Costa Rica for seeking peace in Central America after it received the recognition it has and with a unanimous UN resolution approved a few hours later.

"No nation in the world is going to raise a hand to punish Costa Rica for having struggled to bring peace to Central America. Among those nations, the last one to do so would undoubtedly be the United States. The prestige we now have in the U.S. Congress is so great that it would be very hard for a senator or congressmen of any party to try to impose sanctions on our country, reducing economic aid, just because it disagrees with the Reagan administration about the solution to the Central American conflicts.

"I have personally told President Reagan: 'We agree on the ends but we disagree on the means. You want democracy in Central America by imposing it with bullets. I want democracy by imposing it with votes.'

"I am not frightened that Costa Rica might be hurt because I have disagreed with President Reagan for 18 months on this very issue."

[Cortes] In history a socialist regime has never carried out a democratic transition. Do you think this is possible in Nicaragua's case?

[Arias] "I agree that it will not be easy to have the Sandinists change to a Costa Rican-style democracy in a very short period. That they do so depends on the pressure that the entire world exerts on them so that they will truly comply with the Guatemala agreement. Costa Rica's peace proposal clearly explains the concept of democracy that we recommend for Central America. We are speaking of a Costa Rican-style democracy as the Western world knows it.

"I have said that if we do not follow the right path toward the democracy that we promised to put into effect when we signed the Guatemala agreement, we should think of OAS-sponsored sanctions against those nations that do not comply.

"In answer to those who argue that it is inadvisable to remove the military pressure so that this will be done, I think that with that pressure, instead of advancing toward democratization, the Sandinists have made Nicaragua an even more dictatorial and repressive regime, eliminating all individual freedoms and all types of political pluralism, and, above all, they have used military aggression as the main excuse to explain the failure of the Marxist experiment in the Nicaraguan economy.

"My reply has always been that if the Costa Rican peace plan were inopportune because it came at a time when the counterrevolutionaries were on the verge of winning the war, I would understand that they would complain that with this initiative I would be 'messing things up' for them and preventing a contra military victory.

"The fact is that this is far from true. The only thing with which the Soviet Union can help the Sandinists is with weapons. This is practically the only thing with which it can help them because Nicaragua does not have foreign exchange and the Soviet Union has refused to continue giving petroleum as it did in the past. The truth is that what Nicaragua has more than enough of is weapons. I do not think this argument is valid.

"What we are doing is testing the Sandinists' sincerity. To your question I must answer that there is always a first time. We will see. I think the Managua government is very isolated, quite abandoned, and 'God forsaken.' I think that as a result of President Reagan's decision to negotiate with Mikhail Gorbachev on the reduction of short- and medium-range missiles, the Soviet Union will have to stop spending the enormous amounts of money it now spends on weapons. I am absolutely sure the Soviet Union will not be sustaining Nicaragua as it did Cuba at the beginning of 1960.

"My impression is that Nicaragua will either yield, open up, and comply with the Guatemala agreement or it will face bad times. This is because if Nicaragua cannot count on the unlimited support of the socialist bloc, then, if it does not comply with the agreement it will also be unable to count on the support of the Western world."

[Cortes] If Nicaragua does not comply, isn't the personal prestige of the Costa Rican president and of Costa Rica also at stake?

[Arias] "If it does not comply, if I feel they do not have the good faith we thought they had and that they were not sincere when they signed in Guatemala—each of us agreed to comply with the agreement and the prestige of each of the signatories is in that signature—then I will be the first to report that there is really no desire or good faith and that everything has been a trick. Now more than ever after the Nobel Peace Prize I think I have the moral authority to speak, and I know my voice will be heard." [passage omitted]

El Salvador

Government-Rebel Talks To Resume in Mexico

PA282303 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0400 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 27 Oct (EFE)—Salvadoran opposition sources today confirmed to EFE that the guerrillas and the Salvadoran Government's dialogue to establish a cease-fire will resume in Mexico.

Delegations from Jose Napoleon Duarte's Salvadoran Government and the FMLN-FDR coalition will meet in Mexico City between 30 October and 4 November. The exact date of the meeting has still not been determined.

Hector Oqueli, member of the FMLN-FDR's political-diplomatic commission, reported to EFE that the central point of this new phase in the Salvadoran dialogue will be more related to discussions on the process for a cease-fire than with an agreement to establish an end to the conflict in El Salvador.

The member of the FMLN-FDR commission pointed out that Duarte's government wanted—at least up to now—a "cease-fire and nothing more." The guerrilla fronts maintain they want a dialogue on the Esquipulas II Agreement. [passage omitted]

Salvadoran guerrilla representatives have commented that the basic problem is that their country's government wants to discuss only a cease-fire, without discussing sovereignty, social development, democratization, and other subjects addressed by the Esquipulas II Agreement.

The Salvadoran guerrillas and President Duarte's government officials met in Mexico in 1986; at that time no agreement was reached.

The FMLN's opposition delegates for the upcoming meeting with government representatives are Jorge Melendez, Leonardo Cabral, Mario Lopez, and Mario Aguinada. Eduardo Calles, Jorge Villacorta, and Hector Oqueli will represent the FDR.

The Salvadoran Government delegates are Colonels Reinaldo Lopez Nuila, Leopoldo Caceres, and Abraham Rodriguez, as well as Minister of Communications Adolfo Rey Prendes and Minister of Planning Fidel Chavez Mena.

Bishop Arturo Rivera y Damas, mediator for the parties, may attend this private meeting.

Legislative Assembly Approves Amnesty Law

PA281300 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Report by Rosi Castillo]

[Text] The total and absolute amnesty bill presented by President Jose Napoleon Duarte to the Legislative Assembly was approved yesterday. The amnesty was approved with the votes of the National Conciliation Party [PCN] and the PDC [Christian Democratic Party]. It was approved with 45 votes.

[Assembly leader] Dr Guevara Lacayo said that it does not benefit kidnappers, drug traffickers, extortionists, or the assassins of the president of the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission. [Vice President] Rodolfo Castillo Claramount submitted the amnesty bill that was approved last night. Here are the remarks by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson [member of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA] expressing support for the section dealing with kidnappers:

[Begin D'Aubuisson recording] An addition will be made to this bill by the PDC faction. The ARENA faction, particularly myself, completely agree with that addition. That addition states: Article 3 [words indistinct] specifically (?excludes) the case of Msgr Romero. There is no amnesty for those who committed that crime. We agree with that. You can count on our moral support for this and, to a certain extent, for the entire bill. May God enlighten us. Let us not make a mistake [words indistinct] to really seek peace [words indistinct] our Armed Forces and more violence for our people. [end recording]

That was Maj D'Aubuisson during the discussions for the approval of the amnesty law, which will benefit thousands of prisoners in the country's jails. At the moment of approval, Dr Guevara Lacayo said:

[Begin Guevara recording] Salvadoran brothers [words indistinct] approved a decree in a general way but not [words indistinct] accept the historic responsibility that we have as deputies this afternoon. It is true that the Salvadoran Government and the PDC deputies are going beyond what Esquipulas II establishes. We are moving [words indistinct] because we want to again show the world and the Salvadoran people that when in the past we talked about peace we were not making demagogic statements to obtain votes; we were truly determined to achieve peace in our nation. We know this has its risks. We know all political actions imply risks. However, we must clearly state that the amnesty that is being proposed this afternoon and that will be approved is a total and absolute amnesty. [end recording]

Those were the remarks by Dr Guillermo Antonio Guevara Lacayo on the approval of the amnesty law. This ends another chapter in Salvadoran history. Many Salvadoran prisoners had been awaiting this in hopes of being released. Dr Guevara Lacayo also said that this amnesty was needed to fulfill the Esquipulas II Agreement.

The PAISA [Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party] and [independent deputy] Fortin Magana did not vote for the bill. Hugo Carrillo said that the PCN voted for the bill, but not for the articles. [sentence as heard]

The amnesty will be total and absolute. As we said earlier, it will not benefit kidnappers, drug traffickers, extortionists, and the assassins of the chief of the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission.

PDS Leader Resigns From Reconciliation Panel

PA282212 Paris AFP in Spanish 2105 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Report by Ana Cristina Hasbun]

[Text] San Salvador, 28 Oct (AFP)—Mario Reni Roldan, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party (PSD) of El Salvador, today resigned as a member of the National Reconciliation Commission because of "the permanent violation of human rights in the country and the government's inability to stop it."

Roldan told AFP that his resignation stems from "the increase in human rights violations during the last few weeks," including the murder on Monday of Herbert Anaya, president of the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission, and the disappearance of university union leader Salvador Ubau since 1 September.

On 20 August, President Napoleon Duarte appointed Roldan as principal member of the National Reconciliation Commission, provided for by the Esquipulas II peace plan, to represent the Salvadoran opposition.

Roldan presented his resignation today to Alvaro Magana, president of the Reconciliation Commission, who deplored "the great loss" this represents for the future "credibility" of the commission, which has been tasked with overseeing El Salvador's compliance with the peace agreement signed by the Central American presidents in Guatemala.

To Magana, Roldan represents the "ideological balance" in the commission between the representatives of the ruling Christian Democratic Party and the rightist National Republican Alliance (ARENA).

Other political sources polled by AFP regard Roldan's role in the commission as "a guarantee" not only for the popular sectors who support him but for the government, whose actions would be "verified by ideologically distant sectors."

In statements to foreign newsmen, the president of the commission asserted that Roldan's resignation is a result of "exclusively partisan matters" and has nothing to do with the work of the commission, which, he said, has been done "without problems."

It has been learned that leaders of Roldan's party and of the FDR—political arm of the guerrillas—met recently in an effort to incorporate the latter into the country's democratization process.

In addition, guerrilla and government representatives have already met on two occasions to work out a cease-fire under the framework of the Central American peace agreement.

A new meeting has been set for Mexico before 4 November.

Magana pointed out that the approval last night by the Salvadoran parliament of an amnesty bill for political prisoners—with the sole exclusion of the killers of Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, former archbishop of San Salvador, killed in 1980; and of the president of the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission—is an advance in the fulfillment of the peace agreement.

Anaya was murdered by unidentified gunmen on Monday at the carport of his home.

The amnesty approved Tuesday benefits over 500 political prisoners and the FMLN's guerrillas.

Demonstrators Protest Rights Leader's Death
PA282230 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Several hundred people yesterday met in front of the U.S. Embassy after staging a peaceful march carrying the coffin of Herbert Anaya, Salvadoran human rights defender, who was shot to death on Monday by two unknown people.

Workers of the National Union of Salvadoran Workers [UNTS] began the march at 1730 after leaving the Metropolitan Cathedral to protest the killing of Anaya in this capital.

The hundreds of demonstrators walked through the capital's main streets carrying black flags to demand that the crime be investigated. Herbert Anaya was a staunch defender [as heard] and critic of the systematic violation of human rights by the Salvadoran Government and Army, according to the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission, of which he was president.

UNTS blamed the Army, Jose Napoleon Duarte's government, and the Reagan administration for Herbert Anaya's assassination. UNTS claimed that Anaya had been constantly threatened because of his fight against the military and juridical repression of Salvadoran workers.

Although the U.S. Embassy was closely watched by about 50 antiriot police, the protesters demanded an end to the Reagan intervention in El Salvador and the withdrawal of military advisers. Women in black sang religious chants while about 200 people remained standing around Anaya's casket. Anaya's body had lain in state at the Metropolitan Cathedral, a church that has traditionally been occupied to protest repression and has been the scene of violent confrontations between trade union members and security forces.

Moreover, the demonstrators burned an Uncle Sam effigy in front of one of the embassy's gates in view of embassy security guards.

Human Rights Commission members revealed that Anaya's body will not be laid to rest until 30 October, because they are expecting delegations from the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Europe to arrive in the country within the next 3 days to attend the funeral.

There were no incidents during the demonstrations. The remains of the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission president were kept all night in front of the U.S. Embassy. The action was done as a protest of the murder and to blame the U.S. Government, the Jose Napoleon Duarte government, and the Armed Forces for the crime.

The charges have been denied through announcements on television, radio, and newspapers that point out that this is just another FMLN-FDR strategy to cause more problems for the government and to hinder the Esquipulas II peace plan.

Guatemala

Cerezo: Rebel Attacks 'Publicity' Attempts
PA281730 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0105 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Guatemala City, 27 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo today belittled the guerrillas' attacks and maintained that the guerrillas are "seeking publicity in view of the Army's combat initiative, which maintains control in the country."

The Christian Democratic president said, "It is obvious that what the rebels seek is political publicity, but this does not mean there is an increase in their activities."

The insurgents, particularly the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms, ORPA, some 10 days ago increased their attacks and harassment against military patrols in the southwestern Suchitepequez zone, and in San Marcos and Quezaltenango.

The Army is carrying out a "year's end counterinsurgency offensive" in the northwestern Quiche Department, where the Poor People's Guerrilla Army operates.

Defense Minister Hector Alejandro Gramajo recently visited this battlefront and urged troops to maintain "the spirit to struggle, because we are at war."

However, President Cerezo emphasized that "there has been no increase in the guerrillas' activity." Rather, the guerrillas "seek to gain political importance through unexpected actions." Nevertheless, he added, "the Army maintains control."

The insurgents' actions increased after the talks held in Madrid from 7 to 9 October between a government delegation, military observers, and three URNG leaders.

The URNG groups during the past 4 years have comprised the rebel groups Poor People's Guerrilla Army, EGP, ORPA, the Rebel Armed Forces, and the Marxist-Leninist Guatemalan Labor Party, which is clandestine.

Nicaragua

Government Willing To Talk With 'Insurgents'

PA281346 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government is willing to talk with the insurgents but not with the mercenary contras paid by a foreign power. This was stated by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto, according to an ACAN-EFE dispatch from San Jose, Costa Rica.

In a news conference held on his arrival in San Jose, D'Escoto said that the Sandinist government hopes that things will progress adequately so there will be no need to extend the deadlines for the fulfillment of the commitments made by the region's presidents in the Guatemala meeting on 7 August.

D'Escoto made a distinction between insurgents and irregular forces, terms included in Esquipulas II. Those words are not synonymous. They were taken from the Contadora Group documents, which even distinguish between them by placing them under separate numerical headings. The insurgents are local groups with their own leaders; and in dealing with them, one must speak with the commanders of those forces. However, when dealing with irregular forces one must speak with the foreign power that is actually waging the war through them.

Referring to the contra leaders and the Iran-contra scandal, D'Escoto said that it has been a very profitable business for some of those people.

Regarding his government's compliance with the Esquipulas accords, the Sandinist foreign minister said that Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo has been placed in charge of the reconciliation commissions—of which more than 200 exist—to ensure a dialogue with those who are actually fighting the government with weapons.

Obando Delivers Contra Message to Ramirez

PA290007 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] A new meeting of the National Reconciliation Commission was held this morning. During the session, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo told Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado of a proposal for a dialogue with the revolutionary government. The proposal was given to him by some mercenary leaders while he was in New York.

Ramirez thanked Obando for the message, but he said Nicaragua's position on this matter remains unchanged. Ramirez said they would not talk with the mercenary leaders, but with their directors: U.S. Government officials.

[Begin recording] [Ramirez] I want to reiterate what I said regarding the cardinal's message. I must tell President Ortega what the cardinal has presented to the commission. I think, however, it is good to reiterate the government's position about this. Cardinal Obando told the people who contacted him in New York that the Nicaraguan Government does not intend to establish a new political dialogue with representatives of the counterrevolutionary forces. We do have to talk, but the only dialogue which would prove useful would be with the U.S. Government. This is the government's firm position.

[Reporter] One last question, Mr Vice President. We would like to hear your views about the CIA's plan to move the contras to Florida if a truce is established.

[Ramirez] I have also read about this in the papers. I think if peace is achieved here in accordance with the Esquipulas agreements, that if the counterrevolutionary forces seek refuge in amnesty, those forces must be relocated. Those who want to return to Nicaragua may do so. Those who do not want to return... [changes thought] Amnesty is also offered to them. Florida state authorities have offered an entire town for their resettlement. Some may want to settle in Honduras. I must say, nevertheless, that the Nicaraguan Government is willing to receive all who seek refuge in the amnesty law. They may return to Nicaragua, their homeland, in peace, by laying down their weapons. They may return to their hometowns and join their families. We will present no

obstacle for any person who has participated in counterrevolutionary activities to return to Nicaragua to live in peace and to enjoy all his rights. [end recording]

'Mercenary Leaders' Denied Visas To Enter

PA281855 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Following a plan to obtain publicity, mercenary leaders Alfonso Robelo, Alfredo Cesar, and Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios this morning went to the Nicaraguan Embassy—headed by Comrade Claudia Chamorro Barrios—in Costa Rica to demand visas to enter our country. They were told at the consulate that they can only return to Nicaragua if they accept amnesty.

The Somozist spokesmen in San Jose said that Robelo, Cesar, and Chamorro will report the Nicaraguan refusal to the Central American foreign ministers who are meeting in the Costa Rican capital.

Panama

Liberal Party Withdraws From Government

PA281330 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 1035 GMT 28 Oct 87

["Exclusive" report by Ramon Jimenez]

[Text] Approximately 1 hour ago the consultative board—that is, the Liberal Party's Political Committee—meeting at the Holiday Inn adopted two important resolutions. The first one calls for the withdrawal of the Liberal Party from the government. The text of the resolution, or rather the text of the resolution's operative part, which was approved a few hours ago by the Liberal Party's Political Committee, reads as follows:

Article 1: The Liberal Party withdraws from the National Democratic Union, UNADE, in keeping with the reasons expressed in the points of this resolution, and especially because the current government has strayed from the basic principles that led to the establishment of an alliance.

Article 2: The Liberal Party henceforth declares that it advocates an independent political line to continue working for the democratic, economic, and social principles of the individual and to continue maintaining the Liberal Party's commitment to intensify our struggle to achieve a genuine and swift democratization of the country and a national agreement that will lead us along a path of lasting peace and calm.

Article 3: The Liberal Party bans members from collaborating with those in the current government who have political-administrative positions, such as state ministers, deputy state ministers, directors or managers and deputy directors or managers of autonomous institutions, and presidential advisers.

As a result, officials currently holding the aforementioned positions will have 48 hours to resign. Otherwise, they will be expelled from the party.

Article 4: The Liberal Party urges and makes a patriotic call to all citizens who find inspiration in the principles of democracy, justice, and liberty—which are the postulates of our party—to join us in this crucial struggle to bring about swift democratization in our country, which will restore the traditional calm and harmony to the Panamanian family.

Legal Bases: Article 113 of the Electoral Code and Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 31, 23, 17, 103, (?other articles), and related articles of the Liberal Party statutes.

This resolution was approved by a vote of 22 to 2. The two voting against the resolution were Political Committee members Alberto Arango and Victor Young, out of a total of 40 members, many of whom are abroad.

Immediately after this resolution officially ordering the Liberal Party's withdrawal from the government and banning its members from important public offices, the party's Political Committee continued to meet to review a resolution calling for the expulsion of [Govenment and Justice] Minister Rodolfo Chiari de Leon from the Liberal Party for violating libertarian and Liberal Party principles.

A majority of the Disciplinary Tribunal, made up of (Eddy Sonteano), Oscar Ucros, Lenin Sucre, and Jorge Estenoz, partially agreed with the resolution, with the request by a majority of the National Directorate and the Political Committee. They accepted as valid the evidence presented against Minister Chiari de Leon, who was summoned today to the party's headquarters on 35th West Street and 1600 Cuba Ave to respond to the charges made against him. Should these charges be confirmed, Minister Chiari could be expelled from the Liberal Party. This important meeting lasted until midnight yesterday.

Esquivel on Resolutions

PA290125 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 2320 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Statement by Vice President Roderick Esquivel, president of the Liberal Party, at a news conference in Panama City on 28 October—recorded]

[Text] Last night the National Political Directorate of the Liberal Party held a meeting where some resolutions were submitted and approved. The first one was to withdraw the Liberal Party from UNADE and declare ourselves an independent party. In addition, a resolution of the Political Directorate was submitted emphasizing the calls for democratization, urging the president to assume leadership at this important juncture and to lay down solid bases for holding a dialogue. It is not just a matter of calling a dialogue, because we have all been

issuing these calls. An important person in the country, such as the president of the Republic, must set down the bases so the dialogue may take place. This is not a matter of a fight between a tiger and a tied goat, as we say here in Panama.

In addition, several young leaders of the Liberal Party young professionals group, most of them young lawyers, submitted another resolution—they requested permission from the Political Directorate to do so—proposing the expulsion of Rodolfo Chiari from the Liberal Party because of violations of many articles that are obligatory for all Liberals. This resolution has been accepted by the Tribunal of Honor and is being analyzed by them right now.

This decision is very, very important for the Liberal Party. It has not been a rash decision. We have had much patience and dedication in promoting the dialogue, in setting guidelines of our just, honest, and patriotic democratic mentality. It is a relatively easy solution.

The president of the Republic's ordering the entering and ransacking of the offices of the Vice Presidency was a very low political act and one that establishes a deadly precedent; these offices are not really the property of any one person, they belong to the country, they belong to the state and to the vice president of the Republic.

From now on you will find the Liberal Party with no other commitment than to struggle for this country, for its democratization. I personally am pleased that the Liberal Party has made this decision, because I never want to get ahead or lag behind; I want to march with my party, and last night I proved this. Moreover, they gave me a vote of great support and confidence, which motivates me and pleases me very much.

Esquivel Criticizes Delvalle

PA290419 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0255 GMT 29 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Panama City, 28 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—The Liberal Party, which up until today was part of the government coalition, today charged that President Eric Arturo Delvalle responded to its suggestions for a de jure state to prevail in Panama with "major prepotence" in disavowing fundamental rights.

At a news conference, Roderick Esquivel, vice president of the Republic and president of the Liberal Party, announced his political party's break from the government coalition, composed of six political parties in 1984, including the majority Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), of Social Democrat persuasion.

Esquivel accused President Delvalle of not heeding his public appeals for respect of citizens rights, such as freedom of expression, freedom of movement, and, "above all, the right to dissent, expressed civically and peacefully."

"These fundamental guarantees have been brutally violated time and again," according to the Liberal Party.

In addition to breaking with the government coalition, the Liberal Party expelled one of its leaders, Rodolfo Chiari De Leon, current minister of government and justice, because "he violated articles that are binding for all the Liberals," according to Esquivel, who did not expand on the reasons for the decision.

The Liberal Party, in its new role, will continue to promote the securing of a national dialogue, "preceded by a general amnesty, lifting of the restrictions on freedom of the press, and expressions of physical violence," the party announced.

Esquivel, 60, suggested that the government create a national reconciliation commission similar to those created in the Central American countries through the "Esquipulas II" agreements so there can be a dialogue between the conflicting parties.

"The ship is sinking," the vice president remarked regarding the country's political situation, which he termed "deplorable and depressing." [passage omitted]

PRD's Bethancourt Comments

PA290057 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2331 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Dr Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, president of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], has said that the Liberal Party's leaving UNADE [National Democratic Union] has not affected this coalition at all:

[Begin recording] [Bethancourt] I think this is a symbolic leaving, because for the past 2 or 3 months the vice president has not participated in the government's plans to cope with sedition. He did not participate on his own volition. His political group's abandoning UNADE does not affect it to any significant degree. Let us keep in mind that the concept of union has two aspects: the electoral aspect under which UNADE was formed; and the political concept in which UNADE continues to operate, even at present. This means we should have only one UNADE, an organization that will remain in unity based on political reasons rather than on electoral reasons, which served as the basis for its formation.

[Reporter] Does not the vice president's leaving the alliance create a negative image both here and abroad? Could this not result in greater U.S. penalties on a short-term basis?

[Bethancourt] No. The U.S. actions do not relate to our democratic political problems; those actions follow a plan to break the obligation to comply with the Torrijos-Carter Treaties. I do not think even the resignation of the vice president would bring about a change in the U.S. position regarding penalties. I do not think this would be

the cause for the sanctions, either. The sanctions have been caused by Panama's not lending itself to supporting U.S. policy in Central America.

[Reporter] How would you describe Vice President Esquivel's latest actions?

[Bethancourt] I have been asked a similar question before. As I have said, that is a personal decision. We have only to consider his remarks and political postures during the 1984 campaign and all through these years up until about 2 months ago. He changed his political position when the government began to encounter serious difficulties. [end recording]

Assembly May Try Esquivel for Treason

PA290020 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 2300 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] According to statements by the vice president of the Legislative Assembly, Panamanian Vice President Roderick Esquivel will be tried for treason against the fatherland.

Esquivel and Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle's government broke relations 4 days ago when the vice president's office was closed and some of Esquivel's friends were dismissed from government posts.

Esquivel's reaction was to attack Delvalle and state that he would not resign from his post. Legislative Vice President Gomez argued that if the National Assembly can try the president of the Republic for treason, it can also do so with the vice president.

Other sources stated that the request to declare Vice President Esquivel a traitor to the fatherland must be accompanied by proof of his actions in the last few months.

Abadia: U.S. Envoys' Behavior To Be Analyzed

PA281449 Panama City Tetemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias has said that the Panamanian government will carefully analyze U.S. diplomats' behavior in Panama before making any decisions:

[Begin Abadia recording] One cannot make a decision without knowing all the facts crucial for making a judgment. It is easy to act irresponsibly, and when complaints are received it is easy to agree that it should not have been done that way. Now, everybody believes we should. [sentence as heard]

Hence, the Foreign Ministry and the national government have the serious responsibility of pondering the facts and analyzing the circumstances surrounding the facts so that the National Defense and Security Council can make a level and serious evaluation of the situation and make a decision based not only on what is best for the government, but what is in the Panamanian people's best interests. [end recording]

Defense Forces Prevent Demonstration

PA290155 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0125 GMT 29 Oct 87

[Text] Panama, 28 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—For the second time in less than a week the presence of the Panamanian Army prevented a demonstration called by the opposition "Civic Crusade," which was scheduled for today.

Defense Forces troops, following instructions from the mayor's office, were stationed from midday today in the vicinity of the centrally located El Carmen Church and other strategic areas of this capital, where the opposition demonstrators planned to gather.

Nevertheless, the military deployment was far less than last Thursday's, when Army troops practically "occupied" the capital to prevent the celebration of another "great national demonstration" called by the opposition.

At the scheduled hour of the demonstration, only a group of 50 people were in the vicinity of El Carmen Church, watching the antiriot policemen, without daring to approach the area where the demonstration was to be held.

The policemen guarding the area arrived in three vans and with a truck with water cannons, but did not see action. No arrests have been reported.

President Eric Arturo Delvalle's government announced a week ago that the opposition "Civic Crusade" demonstrations were banned because they have the "sole purpose of subverting public order and toppling the constitutionally elected authorities."

Jilma Noriega de Jurado, mayor of Panama City, also reiterated today that preventive measures would be adopted to prevent the demonstration because of its "subversive and illicit" nature.

Mayor Releases 70 'Political Prisoners'

PA282207 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] By instructions of the authorities, the Panama City mayor ordered the release of some 70 political prisoners. Mayor Jilma Noriega de Jurado explained the decision:

[Begin recording] [Noriega] They have paid their fines and were released—including Mr Alberto Conte, who also paid his fine and was released.

[Reporter] Could you tell us why they were released?

[Noriega] Because they were people who were arrested at a given time, but the intention of the national authorities, the president, and everyone is not to keep people arrested for an indefinite amount of time, especially when we believe the situation is under control. However, I would like to make a call to see if we can maintain peace, because if these people are arrested once more they will have problems; it would be more difficult for them to be released.

[Reporter] Where were these people and how many of them were there?

[Noriega] There were approximately 70 people whom we have been able to see here. They were in detention centers and in night jails. There were others in Coiba [penal colony] who were brought back. Some of them may still be in Coiba, but we must wait for them to be brought back by boat to Puerto Mutis and then to Panama City; however, they have already been ordered released. [end recording]

Argentina

Alfonsin on Talks With Political Parties

PY281633 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1520 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Speech to the nation by President Raul Alfonsin from San Martin Palace in Buenos Aires—live]

[Text] In response to a summons from the executive branch, the representatives of the political parties are here at the San Martin Palace to start a new chapter in the institutional life of the country, marked by the search for agreements and common guidelines fo face the challenges of the Republic.

The meetings we have held with the leaders of the political parties represented here reveal the extent to which we all have adopted an attitude of responsibility and a willingness to agree and to persevere in our effort.

There are many reasons for this initiative. The results of the 6 September elections mark the consolidation of the democratic system and demonstrate the political pluralism of Argentine society.

Within this framework, the challenges of the crisis must be met and dealt with by all forces and sectors. No one has a monopoly on truth or solutions.

The contribution of each of you will help find long-lasting solutions which, when added to other explicit solutions, will allow us to accurately predict the country's economic, social, and political development. This effort confirms once again the essential principles and rules of the democratic system, projecting the consensus to a broader and more profound level, seeking agreements that will bring within reach the desired social and economic alternatives to guarantee the daily life of the Argentine people, enhance the work of Congress, and lead to the structural reforms the country needs. Our agenda is obviously open to any suggestion, and it will include the broader-based and more honest contributions of all sectors. The results will be the expression of our desire to strengthen democracy, public liberties, and social justice. We will thus create better conditions to face the economic crisis, and meet the demands for the well-being of all people.

This is the desire of the Argentine political parties that represent the interests of society in general, and that are the natural channels through which the people express their demands.

I want to make it clear to everyone that no agreement can be made behind the backs of the people, and no solution will be feasible without the legitimate participation of the people, as provided for by a democratic system.

The mechanism we are implementing today is an instrument capable of expressing a solidarity that commits all sectors of society. Now is the time for consensus within a democracy. Thank you very much.

Caputo on Restructuring Talks With UK

PY281336 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1215 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Oct (DYN)—Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has revealed that Argentina is trying to restructure negotiations with the United Kingdom over the Malvinas Islands by discussing "common problems," such as security in the southwestern Atlantic region. However, he said these talks do not mean "in the least" that Argentina will lay aside its historical claims to sovereignty over the archipelago.

The minister said this intention to negotiate with the United Kingdom does not at all mean "creating joint administration" [generar un condominio] for the islands, or "freezing the Argentine claim of sovereignty," since with these negotiations, carried out under a sort of U.S. mediation, the Buenos Aires government intends to protect "its sovereignty" [pretende abrir "un paraguas de soberania"].

"We want to make progress in something desirable without affecting Argentina's strategic objective, that is, to move toward the recovery of the islands," Minister Caputo told the weekly magazine *Somos*, which came out today.

The minister was interviewed by the magazine after its correspondents in Washington obtained a copy of a "non-paper" [preceding word in English] (unofficial document) from the U.S. State Department addressed to London containing a summary of the informal talks between Argentine and British diplomats through their American colleagues.

This document leak—which confirms relative progress in the talks carried out to overcome the official stalemate on the subjet—surprised Caputo, who refused to make a judgment about "alleged confidential documents of another government."

The foreign minister said Argentina wishes to protect "its sovereignty" [establecer "un paraguas de soberania"], that is, to establish "a willingness to hold dialogue and negotiate, as long as there is an open agenda, as long as negotiations do not exclude any problem concerning the Malvinas Islands."

Gen Caridi Says Army Situation 'Normal'

PY281826 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Army Chief of Staff General Jose Caridi has said in Cordoba that the situation in the Army is entirely normal. Gen Caridi said officers' salaries are low, adding that this does not create any more uneasiness in the Army than it does in any other sector with low salaries.

Regarding the suspended military exercises that were to have taken place next month in Puerto Madryn, high-ranking sources said there is no possibility that they will be held. They did not comment, however, on the reasons for suspending these exercises, which are apparently related to budgetary constraints.

Gen Caridi, who will return to Buenos Aires today, met with the members of the III Army Corps general staff to discuss matters related to this force.

General Caridi insisted that the Army situation is entirely normal, and that the Army has repeatedly made clear its role in Argentina.

EEC Commissioner Visits; Meets With Alfonsin

PY282122 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 28 Oct 87 p 3

[Text] (NA-DYN)—European Economic Community Commissioner Claude Cheysson arrived here yesterday and appealed to developing as well as industrialized nations to "shout together" that "high interest rates are not acceptable," adding that the United States is "the country responsible" for this situation, which arises from its budget disequilibrium.

Cheysson made these statements after the meeting he held with President Raul Alfonsin at the Olivos residency.

In reference to the stock market crisis, the commissioner said that "it deepens the doubts on the rationality of world economic policies."

He added that not only Latin American countries are questioning these policies but also a large segment of the public opinion in the industrialized world is beginning to speak out.

Cheysson went on the explain that "high interest rates will be questioned, not only for the burden that it represents to you, but also for the disequilibriums that these create in the world economy.

"The problems that debtor countries face now, will be more related to those of industrialized nations," he added.

The commissioner did not disclose details of his meeting with Alfonsin and simply said that they discussed problems pertaining to the Latin American and world economies.

Discusses Trade Relations

PY290023 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Dante Caputo this morning commented on Argentine Government concern about the sickly growth of the international financial system, which hinders the efficiency of Argentine agricultural production. Caputo made this statement at the opening of the second consultation meeting between Argentina and the EEC, whose delegation is headed by Claude Cheysson.

Cheysson has stated that, in order to counterbalance Argentine export losses caused by the admission to the EEC of Portugal and Spain, the EEC has made some concessions to benefit Argentine exports. In this regard, Cheysson explained that 550,000 tons of bran and 4,500 tons of special cuts of beef will not be taxed and will be assessed reduced customs tariffs. The same exemptions will be applied with regard to the export of 5,000 tons of hake fillets and an unspecified amount of boneless beef.

Cheysson, who granted a news conference this morning, blamed the international financial crisis on the U.S. budget deficit and repeated yesterday's statement that the United States is to blame for most of the economic problems being experienced by Latin American countries.

Economic Aid Under Consideration

PY282222 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1912 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Oct (NA)—EEC sources today said that the organization will decide on the urgency of helping development in the Central American region during a summit conference between the Central American foreign ministers and EEC leaders, to be held in Bonn at the end of February 1988.

A meeting preparatory to the summit will be held in New York before the end of the year with the participation of the EEC "troika," alluding to the representatives of the countries currently heading the EEC.

A reliable source from the delegation accompanying Claude Cheysson in his Latin American tour told *Noticias Argentinas* that the EEC is currently evaluating an "in situ" report prepared by an EEC mission sent to gather information and evaluate the needs of the Central American countries, for implementation once the peace process in the region takes hold.

The source emphasized that "the main lines" of the assistance or aid to Central America include "help for refugees, relocation of displaced people, support for the election of a Central American parliament, and assistance programs involving regional cooperation."

The source added that Central American countries have submitted to the EEC between 25 and 30 development projects that the EEC "will have to evaluate."

The source said that the EEC will send another mission to the region "to evaluate what seems to us to be urgent needs, such as the reactivation of the Central American common market."

"The EEC is already thinking about what will happen 'the day after' the final signing of the peace process. If peace can be maintained and if it is consolidated, the aid from the EEC will increase," the source said.

Brazil

Commission Approves Draft Constitution

PY291233 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 29 Oct 87

[Excerpts] The Constituent Assembly Systematization Commission last night approved the draft constitution presented by Bernardo Cabral. The constitution will thus be ready by the end of January 1988.

Late last night, following an agreement reached by the various leaderships, the Systematization Commission approved the full text of Bernardo Cabral's draft constitution, with the exception of the amendment proposals that will be voted on today and tomorrow.

The preamble was voted on together with Chapters 1 and 2, while the other six chapters were voted on one by one. On the first voting, the preamble and Chapters 1 and 2 received only one negative vote, that of PMDB Deputy Osvaldo Lima Filho, Pernambuco State. [passage omitted]

According to Bernardo Cabral, the new Brazilian constitution will probably be ready by the end of January 1988, and not in April, as previously reported, in an effort to honor the independence martyrs, Tiradentes, and Tancredo Neves' democracy. [passage omitted]

Another Victim of Cesium-137 Accident Dies

PY272129 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1500 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Excerpt] The third victim of the Goiania nuclear accident died today. Israel Batista dos Santos, 22, died this morning in the Marcilio Dias Navy Hospital in Rio de Janeiro.

Of all those affected by the cesium-137 in Goiania, Israel Batista dos Santos was one of the last ones to arrive in Rio de Janeiro. He arrived on 19 October. He suffered respiratory failure twice yesterday, and was in a pre-coma condition.

According to a report from the Marcilio Dias Navy Hospital, Israel Batista dos Santos died at 0640 today. Israel Batista dos Santos was the patient in the worst condition. The Marcilio Dias Navy Hospital provides very little information on the condition of patients affected by the accident. [passage omitted].

Sources Say Payment of Some Interest Considered

PY281814 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1715 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Brasilia, 28 Oct (EFE)—Government sources confirmed today that Brazil is considering suspending the moratorium of its foreign debt, which was declared on 20 February 1987. This could be decided within the next few days with the payment of part of overdue interests.

Brazilian Central Bank President Fernando Milliet stated that Brazil will probably deposit $450 million at the "International Compensation Bank," in Switzerland, pay 1 month of overdue interests on debts to private banks.

He added, however, that these banks will, in turn, disburse an amount three times greater than the $450 million which Brazil will pay toward its debt.

This action has been termed as a gesture of goodwill by Brazil to its creditors, hoping to reach an agreement for a medium- and long-term renegotiation that will help normalize relations between Brazil and the international economic community.

Brazil, which is the country with the largest debt in the Third World, has a debt totaling $112.7 billion. It declared the moratorium in February 1987, and government officials attributed this drastic measure to the reduction of Brazilian reserves.

Bankers have urged Brazil to suspend the moratorium if it wanted to negotiate new credits for the country, while Brazilian authorities demanded at least $10.4 billion of "new money" to pay its due debts and maintain its economic recovery program.

Finance Minister Luis Carlos Bresser Pereira stated that the deposit of $450 million, to pay for overdue interests to international banks, will not necessarily mean the suspension of moratorium, which will be decided upon by the end of the year.

Bresser on Inflation Measures, Public Deficit

PY290031 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Finance Minister Bresser Pereira today said that the government is going to implement additional strong measures to stop the public deficit and inflation. He added the measures to be implemented will be in the fiscal and monetary areas.

Bresser Pereira said the inflation rate in October should be around 9 percent, that is above the 8 percent anticipated by the government. He added that this increase prompted the additional measures .

Today Bresser Pereira went to the office of Marcelo Pimentel, president of the Superior Labor Court, to show him a document, which was also shown to union leaders and businessmen of Sao Paulo, indicating that the increase of real salaries over 10 percent is compromising the policy to fight inflation.

Bresser Pereira was accompanied by (Sideraclito Queiroz), Finance Ministry legal adviser, and Labor Minister Almir Pazzianotto. The meeting which lasted 1 hour, was also aimed at quietening the stir created by a

telegram sent by Bresser Pereira to Pimentel in which he expressed displeasure over the approval of a 44-percent salary increase for Bank of Brazil employees.

Marcelo Pimentel said that he received the document along with a technical study which contains a theory, but, he said any theory can be questioned. He added that there is no longer any friction between himself and Minister Bresser Pereira.

PMDB Extends Support to Bresser's Debt Plan

PY281241 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] PMDB President Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes yesterday informed the Finance Ministry of the PMDB's support for Minister Bresser Pereira's plan for foreign debt renegotiation.

Ulysses Guimaraes, who is also president of the Constituent Assembly, held a 1/2-hour meeting with Minister Bresser Pereira, who explained that negotiations on Brazil's foreign debt continue on the same basis as before, which is well known. He said an agreement with the IMF will be considered after an agreement is reached with the other banks.

Guimaraes explained that this was not the main reason for the visit. He said he met with the minister to convey proposals by some Constituent Assembly members regarding the interests of some states. The PMDB President added that the minister did not express dissatisfaction with his post. Guimaraes said the post of finance minister is subject to many pressures, but that Bresser has the support of President Sarney and the PMDB.

[Begin Guimaraes recording] Any finance minister always experiences pressure from all sectors. This is a ministry that deals with interests, with money, and with the demands of many. Not all these demands can be fulfilled. There is no other ministry that has more pressure than the Finance Ministry. But the minister has the support of the president of the Republic and of the PMDB. [end recording]

Daily Reports Lack of Support for Bresser

PY261848 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Oct 87 p 3

[From the "Notes and Information" page: "A Minister Losing Grip"]

[Text] Lost in the dark night through which the executive branch is groping, Finance Minister Bresser Pereira had better stop blaming the wrong groups as he did when he charged the "capitalists" with trying to make profits that are not in line with the salary guidelines generated by the Cruzado Plan. In our opinion, he would do better to stop that kind of rhetoric because Your Excellency [Bresser Pereira] knows the crisis goes beyond words, although it must be properly stated in words. Your excellency also knows, or should know, that the less we abuse rhetoric, the easier it will be to find a way out of the quagmire into which we were thrown by the naivete and indecision of President Sarney, the economic incompetence and political messianism of former Finance Minister Dilson Funaro, and the self-serving interests of those who hold positions of power in this unfortunate Republic.

The finance minister is right when he says Brazilian society will not withstand the shock of a new inflationary escalation stemming from irresponsible salary increases. He should have also said—in order to make his assessment perfect and irreproachable—that Brazilian society will not withstand the difficulties that will engulf it in an inflationary explosion caused by the negligence, incompetence, and irresponsibility of those who manage the monetary problems in this republic, which lacks a chief. When the monetary base explodes, escaping all control, and when the public deficit grows and no one has the courage to stop it, it is only natural that one should be afraid of what may befall Brazilian society.

Minister Bresser Pereira has more than enough reasons to ask businessmen and workers not to negotiate salary agreements exceeding the national productivity gains (do we really have such gains?) and inflation indexes. Possibly—more from empirical than theoretical knowledge—Your Excellency knows that when salaries increase with no limit other than the barganing power of employers and employees, (therefore in an irrational manner) it can only be expected that such increases will be passed on in prices, thus pushing the inflationary spiral upward. Prices will rise even more rapidly when the other production cost factors—those that depend on goverment economic and financial policy—begin to exert irresistible upward pressures, both on costs and prices.

The finance minister should stop talking so much about a press that is selling the notion that salaries are being squeezed; about the capitalists' profits; and about the workers' wishes to secure a larger share of the GDP. Instead, he should concentrate his rhetoric on the weakness of the goverment, of which he is a member. When Your Excellency announced his salary policy, we raised doubts about the possibility of its success, because we knew the difficulties the Finance Ministry would have in the face of salary demands from the state sector of the economy. The first skirmish over salaries took place at the Bank of Brazil and the executive branch lost. It later lost another skirmish at the Central Bank, as it will also lose at the Government Engraving Plant, where strikers (who are not printing money as long as they are not working) are being offered raises of no less than 62 percent, which certainly surpasses the 10-percent real increase that Minister Bresser Pereira is recommending for private employers and employees.

Minister Bresser Pereira, who began his career in the private sector, is wrong in directing public criticism at the private sector alone. We know that in your discussions with the military ministers regarding salaries Your

Excellency used powerful arguments to oppose the salary demands of military personnel, but you did so in private. Now, when it comes to relations between businessmen and workers, Bresser Pereira uses public forums to air his viewpoints and criticize this or that group. These are, however, minor objections in the face of what is happening in Brazil. Someone coming from the outside to study what is happening here would be amazed at what he saw: a finance minister putting at stake his political popularity to save the public image of the nation's president, while the chief of government shows himself incapable and politically powerless to prevent his subordinate from giving in to those salary demands. Never, anywhere in the world, has a chief of government been seen undermining by his inaction the actions of the finance minister, thereby digging the grave of his own government. President Sarney should not delude himself: When the times of euphoria over the Cruzado Plan were known as those of the "Sarney overseers" ["fiscais de Sarney"], the prestige of Minister Funaro was at stake; today, when the crisis threatens various sectors of the economy, the prestige of President Sarney himself is at stake. The failure of the Bresser Plan will spell the failure of the Sarney government. This is obvious to everyone except the chief of state.

Minister Bresser Pereira learned through the press that in the comprehensive ministerial reform that did not materialize he was being considered for transfer to the Planning Ministry, where he would continue to conduct the foreign debt negotiations, but would lose control over the macroeconomic plan. This simple fact indicates that Minister Bresser Pereira no longer deserves the confidence (although it is hard to understand what this means) of the president and of those who pull the political strings in this country. Despite this, and despite the fact that agencies subordinate to him or to other ministers have overstepped the salary policy he designed, Minister Bresser Pereira continues to hold on to his ministerial post. It is difficult to see why or under what pretext Professor Bresser Pereira remains at the helm of the Finance Ministry, since his commitment to bringing inflation under control is being sabotaged by nation's president himself. What is the minister awaiting before he steps down with dignity? Certainly he is not waiting to have happen to him what happened to others, who learned of their dismissal through the newspapers and later were called in by the president to receive their consolation prize of writing their own resignation note in exchange for promises to be appointed to posts that did not exist.

The salary policy laid down by Minister Bresser Pereira failed because the president and Congress, both its leftist and rightist groups, do not want to elicit antipathy from both the public and private sectors. They prefer to let things run their course in the certainty that, whatever the outcome, there will always be a consolation prize for politicians—a "gasparino" [share of a lottery ticket], as such a prize is known. The problem is, however, that the way things are going, the day when the Federal Lottery drawing is to take place the Federal Savings Bank, which runs the lottery, will be on strike. There will be no winning number, and no one will be lucky enough to have a "gasparino." Minister Bresser Pereira should think about this. He at least had the courage to admit there is such a thing as a market, even if its rules are not respected.

Government Grants Civil Servants Wage Increase

PY281349 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Excerpts] The government yesterday authorized a staggered salary increase of 108 percent for civil servants retroactive to 1 October. The decree was signed by President Sarney, and the salary increase is retroactive to 1 October.

The adjustment granted by the government, and the Price Reference Unit [Unidade de Referencia de Precos—URP] for the month of October, are already included in this percentage.

Administration Minister Aluizio Alves stated that adding these percentages to the monthly URP readjustments during the next 3 months, plus the 11 percent increase in January, public employees will receive a salary increase of 108 percent over what they received in September. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Minister, are public enterprises included in this salary increase?

[Alves] No. Neither the enterprises nor the foundations that comprise the indirect administration are included. This increase is granted only to employees of the direct administration of the executive branch.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] of public enterprises?

[Alves] Each enterprise has a base date for the readjustment of employee wages. Each is an isolated organization, and will adopt September or March to make its adjustment, in accordance with the base date...

[Reporter, interrupting] Then, the readjustment will be granted in accordance with base date adopted by each company.

[Alves] In the case of public employees the base date was 1 January, but the government has decided to change this date to 1 October. Until last year, there had been two increases every 6 months. Then it became a single yearly salary increase, and now the government decided to advance by 3 months the date for salary increases. [end recording]

The administration minister explained further that public servants who received a salary increase recently will not be affected by these new readjustments. Minister Alves added that with new salary readjustments, the

government payroll for civil servants will increase from 17 percent to 21 percent of the country's revenues, thus increasing from 12 billion to 15.6 billion cruzados.

Chile

Pinochet To Order University Normalization

PY290159 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1940 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Santiago, 28 Oct (EFE)—Chilean Chief of State General Augusto Pinochet announced today that he will order the normalization of activities in the paralyzed University of Chile.

Pinochet paid a surprise visit to the university's Law School, which was ordered closed for 2 weeks by the rector yesterday, in the wake of incidents between the students and the new acting dean of the school.

Asked whether he gave specific orders, Pinochet replied that the orders "were released by me and I will not make them public, but I will give instructions and you will see."

Controversial Rector Jose Luis Federici designated Professor Ivan Huebner as acting dean of the Law School, a designation that has been opposed by both the faculty and the students.

Huebner tried to assume his post yesterday, but a group of 200 students reported to his office to tell him that they would not let him discharge his duties. The students took the furniture from the office and placed it in front of the building.

Pinochet said that in the Law School there are groups exercising pressure to avoid the normalization of activities, adding that he will take the necessary measures.

Law School Director Paulino Varas said that the fact that "the president came to the school shows that the situation has gone too far and that it is unacceptable from the overall point of view of the unviersity."

After Pinochet paid a visit to the school, it was learned that a list of the students who participated in yesterday's incidents will be prepared and that they will be sanctioned.

More on Law School Visit

PY281835 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Shortly after noon today President Augusto Pinochet paid a surprise visit to the Law School of the University of Chile.

The chief of state visited the school premises to see for himself the damage caused by students yesterday when they broke into the school and, after insulting and pushing acting dean Jorge Ivan Huebner around, kicked him out of the building. So far Huebner has not come back.

The Law School activities have been suspended for 10 days until the situation returns to normal.

Upon his arrival at the school, President Pinochet was escorted around the premises by Professor (Hugo Caldera). The president visited the areas damaged by the vandals and left without making any comment. [passage omitted]

Opposition Leader Meets With French Official

PY281825 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Text] All the opposition forces of Chile, with the exception of the Communist Party, have agreed to demand free, open, and competitive elections in the country. This statement was made by Christian Democracy President Andres Saldivar after holding a meeting with Didier Bariani, the French secretary of state to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Saldivar said that if this objective is not reached, the opposition will demand that the government give guarantees the scheduled referendum will take place under conditions of freedom and credibility.

If these conditions are guaranteed, we will participate in the referendum to defeat Pinochet with a no, and thus open the way for free and open elections, Saldivar said.

However, if he intends to commit a fraud, our movement will denounce and prevent it with the support of political parties, social organizations, and international solidarity.

In conclusion, Saldivar said that it is logical to invite foreign observers to guarantee the seriousness of the plebiscite; therefore, if the Chilean Government wants credibility it should do so.

French official Didier Bariani said that he believes the plebiscite planned by the Chilean Government is a dubious process because it is based on a single candidate; however, it is beneficial that the Constitution does at least provide a timetable.

In this respect, Bariani said that it would be unacceptable if the Chilean Goverment did not respect the schedule established by its own Constitution.

Socialist leader Ricardo Lagos also attended the meeting with Bariani.

PDC Demands Protection for Labor Leader

PY290007 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0408 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Santiago de Chile, 26 Oct (EFE)—The National Council of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] today stated that "there is a serious and well-founded assumption that the life of labor leader Manuel Bustos, currently in custody, is in danger."

Bustos, president of the National Workers Command [CNT], and two other CNT leaders were imprisoned after being prosecuted on orders of the Chilean military regime for calling the 7 October strike.

According to authorities, Bustos cannot be transferred from his current place of detention to the "Capuchinos" prison because he is facing a sentence in a previous lawsuit, also filed by government lawyers.

Bustos has been threatened many times by unknown persons and by groups of the so-called "Chilean Anti-communist Association" (ACHA).

In public statement released today, the PDC pointed out that "the prison where our comrade Bustos is being held is not safe enough, and the argument that he cannot be transferred to a more secure place, due to regulations, is unreasonable."

The statement, signed by PDC leaders, added: "We demand that Bustos be transferred immediately to the Capuchinos prison and that concrete measures be adopted to protect his life."

The note adds that "these measures must be implemented as soon as possible because a person's security cannot be subject to mere regulations."

Leftists Offer Officer's Release If Exile Ends

PA282150 Paris AFP in Spanish 2101 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Santiago, 28 Oct (AFP)— The leftist FPMR (Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front), which has been holding Chilean Colonel Carlos Carreno captive for 58 days, has announced that the officer will be released 24 hours after the government of General Augusto Pinochet authorizes all exiles to return to Chile.

An FPMR communique, released clandestinely, pointed out: "The colonel will be released in 24 hours if the government responsibly pledges to end the exile."

Arms Industry Denies Sales to Nicaragua

PY290216 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Ferrimar Ltd, a Chilean arms firm, has emphatically denied press reports published in the United States stating that Ferrimar has sold cluster bombs to the Nicaraguan Government.

Ferrimar Vice President Juan Concha said: As a joke, it is good; but as news, it is ridiculous.

A *Washington Post* report stated that U.S. Government officials claimed that they had reliable reports that the Sandinists were using Chilean-made bombs against the Nicaraguan rebels.

Ferrimar's vice president said that his company has not been manufacturing cluster bombs for several months. He added that, by law, any arms operation in Chile, either import operations or export operations, must be approved by the government and by the General Directorate of National Recruitment [Direccion General de Movilizacion Nacional].

In conclusion, Juan Concha said it is crazy to think the Chilean Government would sell arms to the communists.

Ecuador

Further on Strike, Government Censorship

Radio Quito Stops Broadcasting

PA281822 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1720 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Quito, 28 Oct (EFE)—Radio Quito, part of the national broadcasting network "Ecuadoradio," stopped broadcasting this morning due to the censorship imposed by the government, which is in response to the national general strike declared for today.

Ivan Ona, the station's news director, explained the government's [as received] decision in a Radio Quito broadcast after he received a telegram and a telephone call ordering the station to join the national network of Radio Nacional.

"Radio Quito has always distinguished itself by its objective news reporting and it therefore cannot join the Radio Nacional network, because that would entail covering only one version of the facts: the government's view," said Ona. After this, the station went off the air.

Radio Nacional, which is being rebroadcast by all of the country's radio stations, broadcasts music and bits of history. Since it began this morning, it has periodically reported on the strike, giving the official version of the National Secretariat of Public Information (SENDIP).

The information broadcast by SENDIP reaffirms the known government position, stating that the strike is "illegal and political" and that the whole country is at peace. It does not report on the strike's effectiveness.

Today's general strike, the sixth since 1984, when Leon Febres Cordero assumed the presidency, was called by the Single Workers Front (FUT) and includes the country principal unions.

The workers are demanding the dismissal of Government and Justice Minister Luis Robles Plaza and Labor and Human Resources Minister Guillermo Chang, in addition to the nonpayment of Ecuador's foreign debt.

Government Suspends Broadcasts

PA281952 Paris AFP in Spanish 1853 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Quito, 28 Oct (AFP)—The Ecuadoran Government suspended for 15 days all broadcasts from Radio Quito, Catolica, and El Sol because of their refusal to join a national government network today during the staging of a 24-hour strike throughout the country, which the authorities declared illegal and political.

The directors of those radio stations said they had received a resolution in this regard by the telecommunications authorities this afternoon.

Ivan Ona, the news director of Radio Quito, owned by the newspaper *El Commercio*, announced this morning that the radio station would stop broadcasting in view of the government's prohibition against reporting on "both sides of the problem."

The network, headed by the government's Radio Nacional, broadcasts official statements and messages from progovernment leaders who did not support the strike, the sixth since President Leon Febres Cordero assumed office in August 1984.

Government Party Registers Presidential Ticket

PA271821 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Today at noon the government party [Social Christian Party] registered its presidential ticket, headed by Sixto Duran Ballen, with (Pablo Batres Nazur) as his running mate, at the Supreme Electoral Tribunal.

At the ceremony legalizing his candidacy, Duran Ballen said that he represents the country's independent sectors which, according to him, play a determining role in the elections.

He said his government platform will be basically the same as the one he presented in the 1979 elections, when he was overwhelmingly defeated by the late President Jaime Roldos Aguilera.

Duran promised to conduct a decent political campaign, without littering the city, [passage omitted]

Paraguay

Peruvian Foreign Minister Makes Stopover

PY272104 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 27 Oct 87 p 6

[Text] Peruvian Foreign Minister Dr Allan Wagner Tizon visited our country last Sunday. He was accompanied by Ambassador Osvaldo de Ribero Barreto, the under secretary for econmic affairs, and by Ambassador Miguel Ponce, the assistant under secretary for political affairs. The Peruvian diplomat made a technical stopover on his way from Uruguay.

Wagner and his Paraguayan counterpart held a cordial talk on interests common to the two countries and on the countries' excellent bilateral relations. The meeting was also attended by Peruvian Ambassador to Paraguay Enrique Arevalo Alvarado Zunartu and his wife.

Civilians, Police Prevent PLRA Meeting

PY280016 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 26 Oct 87 p 16

[By special correspondent Francisco Frutos]

[Text] Eusebio Ayala—Civilians armed with bludgeons, backed up by policemen allegedly from the Interior Ministry office in Caacupe, today prevented PLRA (Authentic Radical Liberal Party) leaders from holding a meeting at the Sportivo Barrereno Club in Eusebio Ayala.

In view of this problem, the meeting's organizers decided to hold the meeting in Boqueron district, located a few kilometers from Eusebio Ayala. PLRA President Domingo Laino, together with PLRA Executive Board members Juan Carlos Zaldivar, Carlos Caballero Roig, and others, attempted to get to Boqueron.

However, they were unable to get there because the road to Boqueron district was blocked by another group of policemen headed by Police Chief Velazquez and his alleged deputy chief, who called himself Juan Perez. According to neighbors, however, Juan Perez' real name is Juan Martinez and he is probably a member of the Eusebio Ayala Colorado Party precinct.

The police, dressed in plainclothes, blocked the road to Boqueron by parking three cars across it: a gray VW Santana, Valenzuela license No 19598; a VW van, license AM Y from Eusebio Ayala, and a Toyota truck, license No 15142.

Police Chief Velazquez talked briefly with Laino to whom he said: "Don't go to Boqueron because the people there really want to beat you up."

The policeman didn't let the journalist from *Hoy* cross the barrier either "because the situation is too hot."

It is worth noting that Juan Perez (or Martinez), who claimed to be deputy police chief, actually said that the parapolice force was made up of members of the Eusebio Ayala Colorado Party precinct and its regional subprecincts.

PLRA Members Arrested, Released

PY280025 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 26 Oct 1987 p 16

[Text] The leaders of the PLRA, Domingo Laino, Juan Carlos Zaldivar, Carlos Caballero Roig, and others, along with approximately 40 PLRA members, decided to hold a brief comradely meeting at the home of a local politician because they were not allowed to meet either in Eusebio Ayala or in the Boqueron district.

The residence where the meeting was being held was suddenly raided by several obviously drunk armed civilians shouting "communist" and other offensive words. They arrested Dr Domingo Laino. A journalist from *Hoy*, who was covering the meeting, started to record what was going on. One of the bullies realized what the journalist was doing and tried to take the journalist's recorder away.

The journalist, Francisco Frutos, tried to resist the attack and refused to surrender his recorder. This enraged the aggressor, who started to punch and kick the journalist and accused him of also being a "communist." The PLRA leaders tried to defend the journalist, creating great confusion.

The politicians were taken to the Eusebio Ayala precinct, where Laino and his followers were threatened with death "if they ever tried to come back to Eusebio Ayala." According to journalist Frutos, the policemen strictly obeyed the orders of the parapolice bullies, all of whom belong to the local Colorado Party precinct.

The politicians and the journalist Frutos were held for approximately 1 hour at the Eusebio Ayala precinct and were then transferred to the Interior Ministry office in Caacupe, from where they were released some time later.

Opposition Leader Raps U.S. Inconsistency

PY282253 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 28 Oct 87 p 9

[Text] Miguel Abdon Saguier, leader of the PLRA Popular Mobilization for Change Movement, has said that the U.S. and Brazilian Governments "must be consistent when urging dictatorships to respect human rights.

"It is not right to force Daniel Ortega (president of Nicaragua) to reopen the newspapers and radio stations that were closed and to tolerate the silencing of Radio Nanduti, El Pueblo, and other news media by General Stroessner."

Saguier added that "they are also inconsistent when they demand the release of Armando Valladares while Stroessner's 25-year imprisonment of Captain Napoleon Ortigoza is silently tolerated."

Saguier made these remarks on Monday night during an act in solidarity with his brother Hermes Saguier, who is in custody for alleged violation of Law 209. Referring to this matter, Saguier stated: "Our fellow citizen who is struggling with us has not committed any crime, but Stroessner's dictatorship, as any other dictatorship in the world, has always used the judicial branch as an instrument of vengeance and political persecution." He added that charges brought by the state prosecutor against his brother "will remain in history in the list of blunders." The people have already termed this case "another typical action by [Attorney General] Clotildo Jimenez [Clotildada]," he stated.

Ministry Orders Schools Closed 30 October

PY290048 Asuncion Red Privada de Television in Spanish 1500 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] The Ministry of Education and Worship has just released a communique to the directors of public and private educational institutions of Asuncion categorically ordering the total suspension of day and night school activities on Friday, 30 October. This decision was made to preserve the interests of students, following numerous requests submitted to the Ministry of Education and Worship by school directors and parents who want to prevent the risk of students participating in activities of a political nature. Students have been publicly summoned on the aforementioned date by the national team of laymen, which is subordinate to the Paraguayan Episcopal Conference.

The Ministry of Education and Worship recommends strict compliance with this resolution by the incumbent institutions, which will be held responsible for observing it.

Traditionalist Movement Leadership Announced

PY272110 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 27 Oct 87 p 9

[Excerpt] Professor Dr Juan Ramon Chaves, president of the Traditionalist Colorado Movement Central Commission, yesterday released the following list of Central Commission members: Dr Juan Ramon Chaves, Dr Pedro Hugo Pena, Dr Ruben Stanley, Juan Esteche Fanego, Juan Roque Galeano, Blas N. Riquelme, Dr Agustin Gonzalez Insfran, Dr Ramon Centurion Nunez, Eugenio Sanabria Cantero, Dr Julio C. Frutos, Ruben O. Fanego, and Arsenio Basualdo, BA. [passage omitted]

Peru

SFRY President Mojsov Arrives on Visit

PA280451 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Excerpt] SFRY Presidency President Lazar Mojsov arrived here tonight on a friendly visit. He was greeted at the Group 8 terminal by President Alan Garcia Perez and Ambassador Gordillo, Foreign Ministry director of protocol. Mojsov is accompanied by the SFRY vice president and federal secretary of foreign affairs. Mojsov is on a friendly working visit that will last approximately 20 hours, during which he will meet with Peruvian officials. [passage omitted]

Delivers Dinner Speech

PA281655 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0318 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Speech by visiting Yugoslav President Lazar Mojsov at a dinner held in the Government Palace in Lima; live—in Serbo-Croatian with passage-by-passage translation into Spanish; monitored in progress]

[Text]...of the debtors, precisely prevents the more rapid and essential development of their economies. The foreign debt problem necessarily demands a new mentality, a reconciliation of viewpoints, identification of common interests, and global and bilateral solutions to prevent dangers to the world and threats to peace.

With respect and recognition, Yugoslavia acknowledges your actions, Mr President, to promote efforts for a united stand, to strengthen the integration of the Latin American countries, to find global and universally accepted solutions, a peaceful solution to all conflicts, and an equitable dialogue without pressure or the use of force. We have the same regard for the activities of the Contadora Group, the Support Group, and the peace agreement of the five Central American presidents. Important progress has been achieved toward a political dialogue to find an independent solution to these problems. This progress leads to hope that this part of the hemisphere is getting closer to a common vision of peace, progress, and cooperation. This is of utmost importance for the objectives of nonalignment, given the international aspect of each of the centers of crisis and their global consequences.

After so many years during which the situation has unceasingly worsened, and given the constant proliferation of nuclear armaments, we welcome the superpowers' efforts to reach an agreement that would mean the beginning of the reduction of weapons and the beginning of detente based on more lasting foundations. There is increasing hope that we will be able to enjoy a different climate, a climate of greater trust among the superpowers and of subsequent progress in disarmament. This would mean there would be hope of achieving other mechanisms of understanding, dialogue, and equitable international cooperation.

This undoubtedly calls for the participation of the entire international community and the contribution of each and every country and people in the construction of those modern definite prospects. I am convinced that Yugoslavia and Peru—within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement, in the United Nations, and in all multilateral forums—will constructively cooperate as they have done to date with the common desire to bring their hopes and those of the world closer to realization.

Mr President, we have seen that you are a strong fighter for the principles of justice and peace, and not only in Peru; you are also a fighter for progress and peace in all of Latin America. Mr President, we Yugoslavs—who have an affinity toward those who struggle for democracy and justice in economic relations—are not the only ones who have seen this characteristic in you. Mr President, all the world has seen you defending these objectives in Harare.

Mr President, on my part and on behalf of those accompanying me, I wish you new and great successes in the application of new and historic concepts, which contribute to the achievement of new objectives for Peru and Latin America. In you we see a person who knows about our own struggle and efforts for development and progress. That is why we wish to be able to receive you as soon as possible in our country so you can learn about our country's past, its current reality, and our future.

Allow me to conclude by expressing wishes for progress and a multifaceted friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Yugoslavia and Peru, for our cooperation in the Nonaligned Movement, and for our joint struggle for the transformation of this unjust world. Thank you. [applause]

Garcia on Nationalization Moves, Mojsov Visit

PA271945 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Text] President Alan Garcia has confirmed once again his statements concerning the nationalization of the financial system. He emphasized that the judicial branch will solve the pending problems. The president also announced the appointment of Pedro Coronado Labo as the new president of the Central Reserve Bank.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What is the full scope of the statement you made yesterday to the effect that the chapter of the banks is closed?

[Garcia] I think this subject has been defined and decided. There is a law that establishes the state expropriation of the financial, insurance, and banking systems. The expropriation suits have already been filed. The law specifies a judicial process—taking approximately 6 months, which is not too long a period of time—in order to set prices for the enterprises. Now that all the suits have been filed, I think it is up to the judicial branch to decide on the final price so that the goal of the law will be met: the expropriation.

In the case of the two largest banks—the Credit Bank and the Wiese Bank— as well as the Credit Finance Company—the state intervened as these were the two largest institutions. There are some smaller institutions for which, in the course of the next 6 months, the judicial branch will determine a just price so that the law will be applied.

[Reporter] Will this 6-month term also apply to the insurance companies?

[Garcia] Naturally, the law clearly specifies that after the expropriation suit has been filed, the owners have a right to file their requests for better prices, according to their interests. Later, the experts will evaluate the institutions. Once this procedure is over, both the superior court and later the Supreme Court will finally determine the price. Then, the financial, banking, and insurance systems will be turned over to the state. When I say this is a closed chapter, what I am saying is that we must look ahead, and we must not be preparing more stories and news reports because we have a democracy and a judicial branch that must apply the law.

[Reporter] Have you already decided on the names you will propose to the Senate of the Republic as the new president of the Central Reserve Bank, the superintendent, and the comptroller?

[Garcia] Yes, I will do that in due time. Today, I am announcing that Dr Pedro Coronado Labo, who is currently secretary general of the Council of Ministers, will be nominated president of the Central Reserve Bank of Peru. He is a lawyer who graduated from the University of San Marcos; he studied economic development and international law in Paris, and economics in Italy. He has been an official of the Financial Development Corporation for many years, and he has banking experience in the Industrial Bank and the Popular Bank. I am going to propose to the Senate the ratification of Pedro Coronado Labo as the new president of the Central Reserve Bank.

[Reporter] Will you make an announcement regarding what happened in a message to the Republic?

[Garcia] I do not know what happened. Somebody must have announced things that did not take place. [sentence as heard]

[Reporter] Mr President, what can you tell us about the visit by the Yugoslav president?

[Garcia] This is a new friendly visit that has a great deal of political importance for us. Yugoslavia is one of the promoters of the Nonaligned Movement, which includes the countries that do not obey either one of the two powers and that follow a humane course of social development. Yugoslavia is also the center of a socialist experience that—under Tito—created new concepts of socialism, cooperativism, and the role and efforts of the workers so that socialism would not be understood as state property over all things, but rather the free participation of society in each and every one of the enterprises.

At the right time, this meant that Yugoslavia became the creative point of a new concept of socialism that was much more democratic. Yugoslavia continues to be a very interesting case, from which we can obtain some experiences in accordance with our reality and our point of view. I think the Yugoslav president's visit is very important, because it consolidates our relation with the more solid countries of the Nonaligned Movement.

[Reporter] Mr President, the presidents' meeting in Mexico is scheduled to be held soon. What are the plans for that meeting? It has been announced that the foreign debt will be discussed. Is that is a problem that concerns all the Latin American countries?

[Garcia] I think it is inevitable that the foreign debt will be discussed. The technocratic and industrial integration has not yielded the expected results in Latin America. Bureaucracy, enterprises, experts, and governments all present many obstacles. However, there is another level of integration, the political integration of decisions. We want to defend the sovereignty of Central America. We Latin Americans have joined in order to do this. Do we want to defend our economies in the face of the foreign banks and the world crisis? We Latin Americans can adopt a great decision.

The meeting of the countries is a first very important step. I remember that on 28 July 1986 I proposed the possibility of a meeting of Latin American presidents. Later on, in Mexico, with President de la Madrid, we concluded that there was a need for the presidents from eight countries—including Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, and Mexico—to meet and discuss the subjects we have in common. These subjects are: economic development, a common answer to the international debt, and, now—more than ever before—our common answer to the world crisis.

As I have said before, Peru and Latin America are a small part of the world system. What happened a few days ago when U.S. prices fell on the New York stock market means that a recession, a very big economic depression, might begin, and that the prices of Latin American and world raw materials and work might drop greatly, and with them, our revenues.

Fortunately, we took measures in time: We restricted payments on the foreign debt, we controlled the purchase and sale of foreign currency, we established a nationalized system of credit and money handling. This will allow us to cope better in coming years with the world depression that is beginning. [end recording]

Suriname

Wijdenbosch Government Submits Resignation

FL281140 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] The government of Suriname's Prime Minister Jules Wijdenbosch has handed in its resignation to Suriname's military leader Lieutenant Colonel Desi Bouterse.

Mr Bouterse is keeping the resignation—which comes less than 1 month before Suriname's election—under consideration.

Surinamese politicians and Mr Bouterse are sharply divided over whether elections should be held in three districts torn by rebel fighting.

Mr Bouterse has ordered the caretaker cabinet to organize elections in the whole country. He admitted that he has forced the issue by doing so.

Bouterse 'Considering' Request

FL281951 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] Yesterday Prime Minister Jules Albert Wijdenbosch handed in the portfolios of his cabinet to the military authorities. Government leader Bouterse, who is also chairman of the military authority, is considering the request for the resignation of the cabinet. Last night Bouterse informed the Top Deliberating Council and the government about his decision to have elections in all 10 districts in the country after which he spoke with the press. In answer to questions, he said that the decision by the prime minister is being considered and that Wijdenbosch, as general affairs minister, has been given the assignment to organize elections in all 10 districts. Bouterse also [words indistinct] the authority of Prime Minister Wijdenbosch to make this decision for the entire cabinet.

Bouterse Orders Election in All Districts

FL281925 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] The general elections planned for November 26 will take place in all 10 districts of the country. Jules Albert Wijdenbosch, prime minister and general affairs minister, received the job from government leader Bouterse to make the arrangements for the holding of elections. This was decided by Bouterse last night after a week of meetings with the Top Deliberating Council failed to reach agreements on the controversial issue of whether or not elections should be held in the Marowijne, Brokopondo, and Sipaliwini districts, which are under a state of emergency. Bouterse was of the opinion that in accordance with the Constitution which was approved by the people, not one citizen on Surinamese territory can be barred from voting on November 25.

With the exception of the February 25 United Movement, the other partners in the Top Deliberating Council were of the opinion that because of the unsafe situation in these areas, elections should be postponed.

Parties 'Disappointed' by Decision

FL281937 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 28 Oct 87

[Text] With the exception of the February 25 United Movement, all partners in the Top Deliberating Council have expressed disappointment with the decision by government leader Bouterse to have elections in the entire country. This disappointment was expressed last night by VHP [Progressive Reformed Party] leader Jaggernath Lachmon, NPS [Suriname National Party] Chairman Henck Arron, and Centrale 47 leader Fred Derby. They, however, declined to elaborate because the joint standpoint was expected to be announced today during a press conference. At news time, the press conference was still in progress.

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